



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 74

February Session, 2014

Senate Bill No. 175

Senate, March 24, 2014

The Committee on Aging reported through SEN. AYALA, A. of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDY OF EMERGENCY POWER NEEDS
IN PUBLIC HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) The Commissioner of Housing
2 shall, within available appropriations, conduct a study of the provision
3 of emergency backup power at public housing for the elderly in the
4 state. For purposes of this section, "public housing for the elderly"
5 means any building where fifty per cent or more of units are rented to
6 persons sixty-two years of age and older under any program created or
7 financed pursuant to chapter 128 of the general statutes.

8 (b) The study shall include, but not be limited to: (1) An inventory of
9 public housing for the elderly in each municipality that includes (A)
10 the total number of housing units for the elderly in each municipality,
11 (B) the location of each housing unit, and (C) the type of housing unit;
12 (2) plans for the provision of emergency backup power at each such
13 building housing the elderly; (3) recommendations for the provision of
14 emergency backup power at each such building; and (4) the estimated

15 cost to provide such emergency backup power at each such building.

16 (c) Not later than January 1, 2015, the Commissioner of Housing
17 shall, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
18 statutes, report to the joint standing committees of the General
19 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to aging, housing and
20 public safety concerning the results of the study and recommendations
21 for the funding and provision of emergency backup power at public
22 housing for the elderly.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2014	New section

AGE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
Department of Housing	GF - Potential Cost	Up to \$100,000	None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Department of Housing (DOH) to conduct a study on emergency power needs at certain public housing for the elderly within available appropriations. However, if the bill were to be implemented the costs to DOH would be up to \$100,000 in FY 15. This estimate is based on a recent study conducted by the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority on the capital needs of the 14,000 units in the state-sponsored housing portfolio, which cost approximately \$1.0 million.

The cost may be mitigated to the extent that DOH coordinates this study with local housing authorities and other government agencies. Local housing authorities may have information on (1) the number of elderly housing facilities in their municipality and (2) the emergency power needs of these housing facilities which could be utilized by DOH in this study.

The Out Years

The bill requires DOH to report the results of the study to the committees of cognizance by January 1, 2015. There is therefore no fiscal impact beyond FY 15.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 175

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NEEDS IN PUBLIC HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY.***

SUMMARY:

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Aging Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)